(c) Does not arise in view of the answer given to part (b) the question.

Scheme to solve the problem of Unemployment

*505. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN:

SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any effective and concrete scheme to solve the problem of unemployment in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) The person day unemploment rates for male and female in both rural and urban areas as per the CDS Estimates reported in last two NSSO Sample Survey Rounds are as under:—

Person Day Unemployment Rates* as per Current Daily Status

	1987-88			1993-94		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Rural	4.58	6.91	5.25	5.64	5.55	5.61
Urban	8.79	12.00	9.36	6.72	10.52	7.43
Total	5.54	7.61	6.09	5.91	6.33	6.03

*Unemployment as percentage of labour force.

The unemployment rate has increased for rural male between 1987-88 and 1993-94, the major chunk of which includes small farmers, rural artisans and landless labourers. The approach to the Ninth Five Year Plan gives priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. In the accelerated growth scenario for the 9th Plan, efforts will be need to be made to achieve an agricultural growth rate of 4.5% per annum. Targets will be realised through a regionally differentiated strategy based on agronomic, climatic and environment-friendly conditions.

Recognising the high incidence of under employment and increasing casualisation of labour, the approach to the Ninth Five Year Plan has stressed the need for enhancing employment opportunities for the poor.

Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment. Improvements in the quality of employment can be achieved only in situation of rapidly growing productivity to which the labour can lay a just claim.

Seven basic services have been identified for priority attention with an all out effort for their complete coverage in a time bound manner. These are safe drinking water, availability of primary health service facilities, universalisation of primary education, provision of public housing assistance to all shelter less poor families, nutritional support to children, connectivity of all villages and habitations by roads and public distribution system targetted to the poor. This will be given a thrust in the Ninth Plan and this programme is also employment generating.

The artisans in rural areas, despite their rich heritage and skills belong to the poverty group. The existing programme to upgrade their skills and improving their capabilities with modern tool kits would be strengthened in the Ninth Plan. In every district Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) will be used for projects which encourage groups of small farmers, artisans or landless labourers to organise for skill upgradation, processing, transport infrastructure or quality improvement, centred around large agro based projects or identified centres of regional, national and export demand.

In addition to above, Special Employment Programmes are in operation to provide employment to the weaker section of the population in both rural and urban areas, which include Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozger Yojana,

Employment Assurance Scheme in rural areas and Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP), and Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) in urban areas and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana specifically for the educated in both rural and urban areas. For the balance unemployment the Ninth Plan will also implement a National Employment Assurance Scheme.

Reduction in Scientific and Technical Staff

*506. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the urgent need to reduce the huge bureaucratic structure/set up in the form of large scientific and technical staff which has not made any worthwhile contribution and has become a white elephant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the monetary/financial allocation, laboratory-wise along with expenditure incurred during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The R & D establishments under the Ministry of Science & Technology remain under periodic review as regards their achievemnts and manpower. The achievements of these institutions justify the manpower deployed.

(c) A statement showing laboratory/ institution-wise allocation and expenditure incurred during the last 3 years under the Ministry of Science & Technology is enclosed. [*See* Appendix 180, Annexure No. 81]

Monitoring of Poverty Alleviation Programmes

*507. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any monitoring in respect of three- pronged attack on poverty alleviation has been made during 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(b) if so, the details of the achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The strategy of poverty alleviation in the rural areas has three major components namely provision of self employment via the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Provision of wage employment through the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), and the area development programmes namely Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP).

The Government regularly monitors the implementation of these major rural poverty alleviation programmes in the Central level Coordination Committe (CLCC), State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) and the at the district level by the Governing Body of the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). These programmes are also monitored through regular progress reports from the States on key indicators and through an intensive regimen of field inspection by officers of the Centre, State and implementing agencies. Periodic review meeting with State Secretariat incharge of Rural Development and Conferences of Project Directors of DRDAs are also held to review the progress in the implementation of these schemes. Monitoring and Vigilance Committees have been set up at the State, district and block levels in which elected representatives of the people have been associated to monitor the implementation of these schemes.

Further more, to assess the overall impact of various poverty alleviation programmes, like IRDP and JRY in relation to their specific objectives, the Ministry of Rural areas & Employment undertakes periodic concurrent Evaluations of these schemes through independent recognised institutions/ organisations.

The details of the physical and financial achievements during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given in the Statement.